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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

**In re Patent Application of:**

**Friedrich MUELLER et al.**

**Serial No. 09/971,031**

**Filed: October 5, 2001**

**Examiner: Angela D. Skyes**

**Confirmation No. 3734**

**Art Unit: 3762**

**EXTRACORPOREAL BLOOD TREATMENT SYSTEM**

**Mail Stop - AF  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Va 22313-1450**

**PETITION AND FEE AUTHORIZATION FOR  
EXTENSION OF TIME UNDER 37 CFR § 1.136(a)**

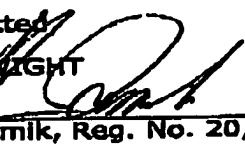
**Sir:**

**Applicants hereby petition for a one month extension of time to respond to the outstanding Final Office Action dated February 13, 2004. A Response has been simultaneously filed.**

**Please charge the deposit account of the undersigned the fee for the first month extension (\$110.00) for "other than a small entity." If for some reason this fee should be insufficient, please also charge any additional fees or credit any overpayment to the account of the undersigned, i.e., Account No. 50-1716.**

**Respectfully submitted**

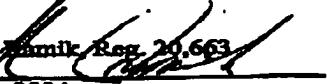
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**Certificate of Facsimile Transmission**

**I hereby certify that this paper is being facsimile transmitted to the Patent and Trademark Office on the date shown below. Fax No: 703 872-9306.**

**By:  Vincent L. Ramik, Reg. No. 20,663**

**Dated: May 25, 2004**